

THE NORFOLK WEEKLY NEWS.

NORFOLK, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 1899.

SOLDIERS WELCOMED HOME

Great Rejoicing in Madison Over the Return of Company F, of the Fighting First.

GREATEST DAY EVER SEEN AT THE COUNTY SEAT

Thousands of People are Present to Do Honor to the Heroes Who Fired the Opening Shots in the First Battle with the Filipinos.

THE CITY OF MADISON LAVISHLY DEORATED FOR THE OCCASION.

The Soldiers Reached Home at a Late Hour Last Night and Today They Are the Guests of the City—A Big Parade, Speeches and a Banquet—Nothing is Too Good for the Men from Manila—Norfolk Contributes Her Share to the Crowd and Enthusiasm.

This is a great day for Madison. It is the greatest day that pretty city ever saw. There are more people there today than have ever been before, all shouting themselves hoarse in giving a glad welcome to the soldiers of company F, First Nebraska regiment, who returned last night from Manila, where they did heroic service for the stars and stripes for nearly a year. While these soldiers are Madison's own boys, yet all the county claims an interest in them and all are proud of their achievements, and a large share of the people of the county are in Madison today, joining with the fathers and mothers of those boys in giving them a hearty welcome home, while extending sympathy to those other fathers and mothers whose sons are resting beneath the sod of a far off island.

Norfolk contributes a large crowd to swell the rejoicing throng at Madison today. Many started early and drove over, but more took the train on the Union Pacific. Unfortunately the train did not get away until 11:20, 40 minutes late, and it was nearly noon when Madison was reached. The train consisted of six coaches, many of them profusely decorated with national colors and two of them bearing banners, which said: "Norfolk Fire department," "Norfolk Welcomes Company F."

The rain of last night, while it had a tendency early this morning to discourage those who had planned to go, was welcomed as an agency to purify the atmosphere and lay the dust, when it was found that the showers had cleared away, so that it really helped to swell the crowd rather than diminish it. The delegation was under the direction of H. C. Matrau, marshal of the day, who was assisted by Lieut. A. J. Koenigstein and C. E. Hartford as aides. The organizations that went in a body were Mathewson post, G. A. R., the Woman's Relief Corps, Company L, N. N. G., the Norfolk band and Norfolk Fire department. Besides those composing the organizations, hundreds of private citizens went along to augment the crowd and swell the enthusiasm.

THE DAY AT MADISON.

A Shower While the Parade is Passing Does Not Induce Anyone to Leave Point of Vantage.

MADISON, August 31.—Special to THE NEWS: Madison today welcomes home her soldier boys, who left this city a year ago last May in response to a call of the country. The city is lavishly decorated with flags and bunting in honor of this happy occasion, and the streets are thronged with people who have come to help swell the welcome. Every portion of the county is represented, and all seem to be as glad to see the soldiers as the fathers and mothers of the boys themselves. As early as yesterday people from out of town began to arrive, so that they might be present when the soldiers reached home. No one slept last night, or if they did it was well toward daylight, and they were up again bright and early this morning, ready to do honor to the heroes of the day. The train upon which the soldiers came was due at 8:05, but it did not get in until after 11 o'clock. Notwithstanding the lateness of the hour, the whole town was down to the

station with the band to greet them. Sixteen young ladies, the "Rough Rider" band, dressed in duck suits, leggings and cow boy hats, boarded the train yesterday morning and went to Columbus to meet the boys. The incoming train last night was greeted with the booming of cannon and music by the band.

And such a cheer as there was when the train stopped at the platform! Such shouting and glad cries of welcome must have been heard beyond the confines of the city, and awakened a responsive echo in the heart of every person who caught the sound of that multitude of voices. Then when the boys had set foot upon home ground once more, there was a seeking out of one's own. Fathers and mothers found their sons and clasped them in stifling embrace, sisters gave their brothers and other brothers a good hug, while the younger male members of the family timidly approached the big hero, touched his hand lightly and thus laconically expressed their welcome: "Hello, Bill; got home, ain't ye?" One by one the boys were taken away from the crowd, and beneath the roof of the old home long hours were spent in talking over the stirring incidents of the past year.

This morning, the town was awake early and preparations were hurriedly pushed to completion for the events of the day. People commenced coming into town early by wagon, and when the train arrived with the big delegation from Norfolk there was such a mass of visitors in the city as never has before been seen. At that time the parade had been formed on streets near the depot and stood at rest, awaiting the Norfolk people.

The procession, which moved shortly before 12 o'clock, was formed in the following order:

Marshal of the day.
Newman Grove band.
Company F.
Madison band.
Ladies cadet company, consisting of a number of young ladies dressed in red and white skirts, blue blouses and military caps.
Norfolk band.
Company L of Norfolk.
Knights of Pythias of Madison.
Battle Creek band.
G. A. R. of Norfolk.
G. A. R. of Madison.
Woman's Relief Corps of Norfolk.
Woman's Relief Corps of Madison.
Fire Department of Madison.
Fire Department of Norfolk.
Oreston band.
Citizens in carriages.
Citizens on foot.

The line of march was up the street from the depot to one block east of Main, passing under the triumphal arch, which is a very substantial structure, covered with red, white and blue, and decorated with the portraits of men who were prominent in the war. Then the procession wheeled to the left two blocks, west one block to Main, and up that to the tent near G. A. R. hall. From either side along the line of march, crowds of people witnessed the passing of the parade, cheering lustily as each section came into view. During the parade quite a heavy shower fell, but no attention was paid to a small matter like that and no one deserted on account of the moisture.

Arriving at the tent, ranks were broken and the members of company F were invited to partake of a banquet, which had been prepared for them by the ladies of Madison. The feast was one fit for a king, and while some of the ladies served, others presented each soldier with a floral offering. After the soldiers were satiated, other organizations in the parade were invited to to

partake of the good things, and even after all had finished there was some to spare.

At the Opera House.
Long before 2 o'clock people began assembling at the opera house, and by that hour the auditorium was packed to suffocation, and not a third of those who desired could gain admittance.

Before the exercises commenced a committee made a free distribution of small flags, giving every person in the audience one. The waving of these emblems of liberty by that vast crowd, combined with the objects of the day, wrought enthusiasm to its highest pitch.

While waiting for the audience to be seated, the Norfolk band gave a few patriotic selections. When company F entered the room, the whole audience arose and cheered it to the echo.

After another selection by the band, Rev. C. W. Lowrie, pastor of the Presbyterian church at this place, led in prayer. A well rendered chorus followed entitled "Uplift your voices."

When the band gave a patriotic melody there was a sudden pause, when some one proposed three cheers for company L, which were given with a will.

Mr. Stevenson, as presiding officer of the meeting, then stepped forward to introduce Col. Simpson, and in doing so he took occasion to incorporate in his remarks a very neat and patriotic speech.

Mayor Simpson of Norfolk, who had been selected to give the address of welcome, addressed the soldiers of company F as comrades, stating that he used that term advisedly as one who has the right to wear the bronze button, and who, with the soldiers just home from the war, has been baptized in the fire of battle, fighting under the dear old flag. "It seems proper and right," said the speaker, "that we veterans of 1861-65 should address you soldiers of 1898-99 by the endearing term of comrades." To the speaker had been assigned the pleasant duty of bidding the soldiers in the name and in behalf of all the people of Madison county a warm and hearty welcome home. He recited the fact that the soldiers had been performing the highest duty known to the citizens of any country—fighting under the flag—the flag that, wherever it floats, is the exemplification of the highest degree of freedom and humanity known to mankind. We meet with cheers and hearty greetings for those dear ones who have been spared to return, after having carried that old flag 3,000 miles across the continent and 4,000 miles over the sea—7,000 miles away from home—with credit to yourselves, the localities from whence you came and the state you represented. Amid all this rejoicing comes the sad thought that not all who went away at their country's call in the pride of their young manhood have come back. They lie sleeping far from home and friends on the distant islands of the sea. Their names will be enrolled among the soldiers of the revolution, the men of 1812 and 1847, and the heroes who died wearing the blue in '61-65. In due time the government will bring back their remains to be interred in their proper localities among their loved ones, for whom they went. The speaker then ventured a word of experience from one who knows and feels what he says, when he stated to the soldiers that, dear as their comrades with whom they have marched and fought may seem to them now, not until the snow of many winters has whitened their heads and the burdens of many years have bent their forms, will they feel the full force and strength of the ties that bind them together as comrades. The memory of their sacred dead will grow more and more tender as the years go along, and when comrades meet in days to come eye will catch eye, hand will grasp hand, the heart will come up into the throat and words will not be found to express the love they have for each other. Again bidding them a hearty welcome home, the speaker stated that it is the wish of every man, woman and child in Madison county that the future career of each soldier may be as prosperous and happy as his past has been glorious and heroic.

When Mr. Simpson spoke of those members of company F who are lying beneath the sod of a far off land, he asked the audience to rise while the roll of the hero dead was read, the bugle sounding "taps" for them. This invitation was responded to, and the audience stood with bowed heads as the names were read as follows: Folkner, Horace, private, disease, September 28, 1898; Sims, Arthur C., private, disease, October 23, 1898; Philpot, William, private, in action, February 5, 1899; Cook, Warren H., private, wounds, February 18, 1899; Vickers, A. H., private, wounds, April 4, 1899; Riley, Walter M., corporal, disease, April 9, 1899; Hoover, H. C., private, wounds, May 5, 1899.

At the close of the address of welcome the quartette sang "Homeward Bound." Then Hon. John S. Robinson was introduced, who gave a timely address of about ten minutes, in which he conveyed the happy sentiments of Madison people in welcoming home the members of company F. At the close of his remarks the Spaniard who deserted and

enlisted in company F, coming home with the boys, was brought forward and introduced.

The Ladies quartette then gave "The Old Pocket Bible."

Hon. John R. Hays was the next speaker, and he was in his happiest vein, giving a short talk which was full of patriotism, thankfulness for the safe return of the boys, and glory in their deeds of valor while fighting for the flag in a far off land.

"The Soldiers Chorus," was next given by the quartette, which was followed by an address by Prof. F. S. Perdue of Madison.

An original song was given by the male quartette, entitled "Take off your hats to company F."

Then the audience rose and sang the "Star Spangled Banner," and the exercises closed by a flag salute to company F, with three cheers by the audience.

Sports.
The later part of the afternoon will be given up to sports.

A game of base ball will be played between Newman Grove and Norfolk teams, which promises to be a close contest.

The celebration will close with a grand display of fireworks, followed by a dance, this evening.

The Norfolk train will not leave until 10 o'clock, to allow the visitors to see the fireworks.

For the horse race there were two contestants, Norfolk and Humphrey. The judges selected were Malcomb of Madison, Mapes and Clements of Norfolk; time keepers Robert Cato and Al. Bley of Madison. The Norfolk team made the run of 200 yards and laid 150 feet of hose in 39.4 seconds. Before the Humphrey team started it was ruled out, and the Madison team entered the race. It started before the time keepers were ready, however, and as this report closes it is preparing to make another run.

Norfolk people who are attending the celebration at Madison today are well pleased with their entertainment and pronounce the day an unqualified success.

Chronology of First Nebraska Regiment.
May 10, 1898: Mustered into the service of the United States at Lincoln, with 1,020 men and officers.

May 16: Left Lincoln for the Philippines.

June 16: Sailed from San Francisco.

June 24: Arrived Honolulu.

July 17: Reached Manila bay.

Aug. 2 to 6: First battle with the Spaniards, assault on Manila; 1 dead, 10 wounded.

Nov. 10: Colonel Bratt succeeded by Colonel Stotsenberg.

Dec. 16: Received \$1,000 (American money) Christmas fund raised by Omaha World-Herald.

Dec. 16: One hundred and ninety men started for home.

Feb. 4, 1899: First battle with the insurgents, opening shots fired by the Nebraskans.

March 4: Shipment of Christmas boxes reached regiment in the field.

April 23: Colonel Stotsenberg killed in action.

May 1: Hospital fund of \$2,350 (American money), cabled by Omaha World-Herald readers.

May 4: Regiment asked for temporary relief from firing line, after three months continuous fighting.

May 6: Relieved from duty at the front; losses, 35 men dead, and 202 wounded.

July 1: Regiment sailed from Manila or home with 42 officers and 812 men, under Colonel Mulford.

July 29: Reached San Francisco.

Aug. 23: Regiment mustered out at San Francisco.

Aug. 24: State of Nebraska, by Governor Poynter, contracts for transportation of entire regiment from San Francisco to the home of the fighters.

Aug. 25: Departed for home.

Aug. 30: Arrived and entertained by people of the state at Omaha.

Battles of the First Nebraska.

Aug. 2 to 13, 1898: Assault against Manila, held by the Spaniards.

Feb. 4 and 5, 1899: First battle with the Filipinos at Santa Mesa.

Feb. 6: Famous battle at the water works.

Feb. 17: Skirmish at Marikina.

Feb. 20: Second battle of Santa Mesa.

Feb. 22: Fight at Cainta (devil's playground).

March 5 and 6: Battle on the Marikina road.

March 7: Skirmish near the Pasig river.

March 25 to 31: Battle before Malolos, in which the First Nebraskans precipitated the flight of Aguinaldo and cabinet, driving them to San Fernando; capture of San Francisco del Monte, Meycauyan, Marilao, Ste. Maria Guiguinto and Ste. Clara Bigua.

April 23 to 26: Battle of Quingua, in which Colonel Stotsenberg was killed.

May 3 to 6: Famous battle of Calumpit, Santa Tomas and San Fernando.

The First Nebraskans will be given another grand blow-out at Lincoln in two weeks. Elaborate preparations are being made at the Capital city.

Lieutenant Colonel Frank D. Eager, in command of the regiment in the absence of Colonel Mulford, is a newspaper man, being the owner of The Independent, a leading Populist newspaper of the state, published at Lincoln.

Major J. N. Killian, of the commissioned staff, is also one of the "boys," being editor and owner of The Nebraska Breeze, a German newspaper at Columbus.

THE FIGHTING FIRST.

Wonderful Record of the Nebraska Regiment.

LONG SERVICE ON THE FIRING LINE

Some of the Battles Participated in by the Regiment—Pathetic Death of Colonel John M. Stotsenberg—Nebraska Volunteer Fired First Shot of the War.

The fighting record of the First Nebraska in the Philippine campaign is an extraordinary one. When the regiment sailed for Manila it was 1,200 strong. After two months fighting barely 400 men were left on the firing line. Mauled bullets and fever had done for the rest. A large number had been killed in battle; the rest were in the hospitals.

From the first gun of the Filipino revolt the Nebraska troops were in the van of the fighting. In fact it was a shot fired by a Nebraska volunteer that precipitated the war and the name of the soldier was William W. Grayson, of company D, enlisted at Lincoln.

Nebraskans marched triumphantly into several towns at the head of the American forces; Nebraskans precipitated the flight of the Filipinos before Malolos, driving Aguinaldo and his cabinet to San Fernando, and from San Fernando farther north; Nebraskans fought in the van of the famous battle at Calumpit, and Nebraskans were on the firing line in the skirmishes which followed the wily plea for a truce by the late General Luna.

It may be remarked in passing that the Nebraska volunteers may have found inspiration in the fact that the regiment took the name of that other regiment which was enlisted during the sixties and fought so bravely at Shiloh over 30 years ago.

Along with the memory of the First and first among its martyrs will always



COLONEL HARRY B. MURFORD, stand the name of Colonel John M. Stotsenberg. No more pathetic incident of the Philippine war can be recalled than the death of that brave officer while leading his regiment in a victorious charge a short distance east of Malolos on April 23, 1899.

Stotsenberg had just returned from a visit to his wife and daughter at Manila. One battalion of the regiment had been sent to the relief of a detachment of the Fourth cavalry which had been surrounded. But Major Mulford found the enemy too strong. The colonel waved his sword and rode at the head of the two remaining battalions on to the trenches. A bullet pierced his heart, and the gallant officer fell lifeless from his horse, while his regiment, yelling like mad, charged on to victory.

The two companies which have most distinguished themselves are L of Omaha and D of Lincoln. The captain of company L, the Thurston rifles, was Wallace C. Taylor, son of the collector of the port of Omaha, Cadet Taylor, who has been prominent in Nebraska for years. Taylor has recently been promoted to the rank of major for gallantry.

All of the killed in the regiment were unmarried men, and almost the entire roster is of men whose only ties at home are those of sweetheart and mother. The married men were nearly all sent home when the regiments were reduced to the minimum.

The Nebraska boys were greeted at San Francisco by a big Nebraska delegation, which included Governor Poynter and other prominent officials. Their reception was a type of the manner in which the other volunteers have been received and is worth describing.

As the parading column swung into Market street, San Francisco's principal thoroughfare, it was in three distinct parts, quite noticeable because of the difference in the uniforms of the men. First came a rollicking band and a body of smartly dressed and hearty looking men all in army blue. They were the Third artillery regulars from the Presidio, detailed by Major General Shafter as the government escort to the battle scarred volunteers. People who did not know scanned their ruddy faces and remarked:

"Well, they do not look so badly used up."

But in a moment they realized their mistake when there came swinging along company after company of slim, lithe young fellows, with thin, tanned, cheeks, weather worn campaign hats faded khaki trousers and leggings, old blue flannel shirts and carrying dingy Springfield rifles and rolls of much used blankets over their coatless shoulders, while battered haversacks and canteens hung about their loins.

The contrast between the home barracks regular and the firing line volunteer from foreign fields was too great not to be appreciated even by a stranger to military appearances. These gaunt, smiling fellows were the famous Nebraskans.

The real fighters could not be mistaken. Young Colonel Mulford, who went away a major, rode at their head, and close behind came the regimental band, playing with the spirit of genuine gladness that awakened a sympathetic something in every hearer.

Roster of Regiment.
The officers of regiment, and companies on arrival at San Francisco were as follows: Commissioned staff: Colonel, Harry B. Mulford; lieutenant colonel, Frank D. Eager; senior major, Wallace C. Taylor; junior major, Julius N. Killian; major and surgeon, Frank A. Snyder; chaplain, James A. Mailley; quartermaster, Warren R. McLaughlin; adjutant, Burt D. Whedon.

Non-commissioned staff: Sergeant major, William L. Boehr; sergeant, Albert L. Rollins; hospital stewards, Carl L. Rundstrom, George O. Barnes and Terry M. Hilsabeck.

Band, originally of Fullerton—Director, James Pierce.
Company A of York—Captain, George H. Hollerman; first lieutenant, Daniel Corcoran; second lieutenant, Fred Fisher; first sergeant, Frank A. Baker; quartermaster sergeant, John B. Miller; sergeant, Otto P. Todd; color sergeants, Walter Poor, killed in action, March 25, 1899; Joseph S. Oviatt; E. A. Veros; John A. Glover, died Sept. 28, 1898; H. L. Hall, corporals, C. O. Freeman, C. Allen Rollar, Alex. Boynton, Fred L. Mann, Joseph Bye, William E. James.

Company B of Fullerton—Captain, Claude H. Ough; first lieutenant, Phil W. Russell; second lieutenant, Andrew S. Wadsworth; first sergeant, Chester W. Martin; quartermaster sergeant, Myron Stearns, died in regiment hospital; James F. Storch, killed in action at Sumaga; sergeant, William P. Augustus; corporals, Ralph E. Richards, Albert Garinger; quartermaster sergeant, P. W. Jewett.

Company C of Beatrice—Captain, Albert H. Hollingsworth; first lieutenant, Joseph A. Starch; second lieutenant, Garrett F. Coleman; first sergeant, William H. Reedy; George L. Geddes died June 24, 1898, on voyage to Manila, buried at sea; John A. Hall, Harry S. Murdock, William J. Evans, died at Cavite, July 24, 1898; Lehman C. Peters, Hans Johnson.
Company D of Lincoln—Captain Martin Herpoldshimer, wounded; first lieutenant, Alexander Van Valin; second lieutenant, Louis W. Ryan; first sergeant, Lee H. Stoner; quartermaster sergeant, Jacobo H. Deveniot, William A. Shafer; corporals, William A. Shafer, Hugh E. Clapp; Frank J. Barron, sergeant; Frank A. Pascal, sergeant; Frederic F. Cokerly, sergeant; Charles T. Knapp; musician, Eugene Lunderman.

Company E of David City—Captain, John F. Zellinger; first lieutenant, Frank B. Narraog; second lieutenant, Sherman A. White; first sergeant, Charles C. Telleman; quartermaster sergeant, Henry Jacob; sergeant, Frank Graham; corporals, Charles E. Cunningham, Peter Anderson.

Company F of Madison—Captain, Charles F. Jens; first lieutenant, Andrew C. Smith; second lieutenant, Samuel McElliver; first sergeant, Edward H. Kennedy; quartermaster sergeant, Harry Wetzel; corporals, Arthur H. Vickers, died of wounds received at Guiguinto, March 30; Walter M. Riley, died at Malolos, April 8, congestion of stomach; Walter J. Hunting, sergeant; Joseph G. Fell, sergeant; musicians, Daniel S. Fraser, sergeant; Harry W. Vickers, corporal.

Company G of Geneva—Captain, V. Charis Talbot; first lieutenant, D. W. Barr; second lieutenant, Harry E. Hannis; first sergeant, John A. Stewart; quartermaster sergeant, Henry C. Underwood; sergeants, George S. Higginbotham, Francis M. Walker, W. E. Camp, Franklin R. Camp; corporals, Charlton B. Hyde, Alvin R. Scott, Ernest W. Waite, Arthur S. Hannes.



MAJOR WALLACE B. TAYLOR.
Ward G. Roberts, John H. McPherson, John A. Witter; musician, Bender Elwood.

Company H of Nelson—Captain, Harry L. Archer; first lieutenant, William G. Dungan; second lieutenant, Robert B. McConnell; first sergeant, James A. Hodgcock; quartermaster sergeant, William Barker; sergeants Charles M. Bowers, Charles A. Mellick, killed near Quingua, April 23, 1899; corporals,